

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A contents supplying system for downloading contents, which are supplied from a contents-supplying server apparatus, into an information processing terminal via a communication network, wherein

the server apparatus comprises:

a server storing device for storing, together with numerous contents, user information including user ID information and contents purchase information made of contents ID information and copy control data regarding the supplied contents, for each user of an information processing terminal registered in advance; and

a server controlling section which, in response to a request for supplying contents from said information processing terminal, supplies the contents corresponding to the request to the relevant information processing terminal and amends the contents purchase information of the user corresponding to the request and which, in response to a request for copying the downloaded contents from said information processing terminal, reads out the copy control data of the relevant downloaded contents from the server storing device and supplies the copy control data to the relevant information processing terminal, and

the information processing terminal comprises:

a terminal storing device for storing the contents supplied from the server apparatus as downloaded contents;

a sending section for sending the server apparatus a request for copying the downloaded contents;

a receiving section for receiving the copy control data of the relevant downloaded contents from the server apparatus; and

a terminal controlling section for determining whether or not to copy said downloaded contents into an external apparatus or recording medium in accordance with contents of the received copy control data.

2. A contents supplying system according to claim 1, wherein the copy control data stored in said server storing device represents the number of times for permitting the copying of the corresponding contents into the external apparatus or recording medium, and is decremented every time the relevant contents are copied from the information processing terminal into the external apparatus or recording medium.

3. A contents supplying system according to claim 1, wherein the user information of said server storing device further includes terminal ID information representing one or more information processing terminals, and

said server controlling section supplies the relevant contents without executing a fee-charging process when the contents corresponding to the request for supplying the contents are contents that are already supplied to the information processing terminal that has sent the relevant request or to an information processing terminal belonging to the same user as said information processing terminal.

4. A contents supplying system according to claim 1, wherein said server storing device stores an initial value of the copy control data, contents by contents.

5. A contents supplying system according to claim 1, wherein said contents are music data.

6. A contents information processing terminal for downloading contents, which are supplied from a contents-supplying server apparatus, via a

communication network, wherein the information processing terminal comprises:

- a storing device for storing the contents supplied from the server apparatus as downloaded contents;

- a sending section for sending the server apparatus a request for copying the downloaded contents;

- a receiving section for receiving copy control data of the relevant downloaded contents from the server apparatus; and

- a controlling section for determining whether or not to copy said downloaded contents into an external apparatus or recording medium in accordance with contents of the received copy control data.

7. A contents information processing terminal according to claim 6, wherein the copy control data represents the number of times for permitting the copying of the corresponding contents into the external apparatus or recording medium.

8. A contents information processing terminal according to claim 6, wherein said contents are music data.

9. A contents processing program applied to a contents information processing terminal for downloading contents, which are supplied from a contents-supplying server apparatus, into a storing device via a communication network, wherein the contents processing program allows execution of a procedure comprising the steps of:

- storing the contents supplied from the server apparatus as downloaded contents;

- sending the server apparatus a request for copying the downloaded contents;

receiving copy control data of the relevant downloaded contents from the server apparatus; and

determining whether or not to copy said downloaded contents into an external apparatus or recording medium in accordance with contents of the received copy control data.

10. A contents processing program according to claim 9, wherein the copy control data represents the number of times for permitting the copying of the corresponding contents into the external apparatus or recording medium.

11. A contents processing program according to claim 9, wherein said contents are music data.